

## **DNR Accessibility Advisory Council Mtg.**

Monday, January 14, 2008

Okemos, Michigan

### **Advisory Council Present:**

- ☐ Sophie Baker, SOM, Dept of Civil Rights
- ☒ Rick Briggs, Brain Injury Assoc of MI
- ☒ Cindy Burkhour, Access to Recreation Initiative
- ☒ Vendella Collins, SOM, Developmental Disabilities Council (MDCH)
- ☒ Jeff Coupie, Michigan Sports Unlimited
- ☒ Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone, MI Department of Veterans Affairs
- ☒ Rodney Haneline, Leader Dogs for the Blind
- ☒ Aaron Harris, Safari Club
- ☐ Roberta McCall, SOM, Michigan Commission for the Blind (DLEG)
- ☒ Roger McCarville, Disabilities Today
- ☐ Scott Norris, SOM, Library of Michigan
- ☐ Lucia Rios, Disability Network – Lakeshore
- ☒ Scott Severn, MI Paralyzed Veterans of America
- ☐ Bill Sheffer, MI Assn of Recreation Vehicles & Campgrounds
- ☒ Jim Trinklein, MI Assn of Game Bird Breeders & Hunting Preserves
- ☒ Mark Velthouse, Outdoors Without Limits
- ☒ John Witzke, MI United Conservation Clubs
- ☐ Duncan Wyeth, SOM, Commission on Disability Concerns (DLEG)

### **DNR Present:**

- ☒ Bonnie Arthur, Communications
- ☒ Vicki Brown, Wildlife
- ☐ Jordan Byelich, Parks & Rec
- ☒ Brenda Curtis, Forest Mineral and Fire Management
- ☐ Monica Day, Grants
- ☒ Jerry Harris, Human Resources
- ☐ Julee Hasbany, Communications
- ☒ Linda Hegstrom, Grants
- ☐ Sharon Lawrence-Taylor, Human Resources
- ☒ Dan Lord, Parks & Rec
- ☐ Sharlene McConneghy, Law Enforcement
- ☒ Erica Moore, Fisheries
- ☒ Tami Pattison, Fisheries
- ☒ William Pemble, OLAF
- ☒ Peggy Ruby, Law Enforcement
- ☒ Donna Slater, Human Resources
- ☐ Paul Stoddard, OLAF
- ☒ Deb Stolecki, Forest Mineral and Fire Management
- ☐ Bruce Watkins, OLAF
- ☒ Ken Wright, Human Resources

**Guests Present:**

Amy Spray, MUCC  
Patricia Sims, MORC Inc.  
Nancy Witzke, MUCC  
Mike Bailey, Wildlife

Meeting called to order by Jerry Harris.

**Changes to Agenda:** None.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the November 5, 2007 meeting were accepted with no changes.

**Meet the DNR Chiefs; Wildlife Acting Chief Doug Reeves:** Doug discussed the mission statement for sustainable wildlife and habitats. He is responsible for managing 160-170 employees, and in cooperation with Parks and Recreation, and FMFM, manages state game areas, habitat management, timber sales, prescribed burns, wetland areas food plots to feed wildlife, and rye clover planting to attract wildlife. His division has reestablished hemlock, white pine, white spruce, and hiring crews to plant in the forest. The wolf management plan is near completion and going to the NRC to finalize. They will begin work on the deer and black bear management plan. The division is involved in the recovery of the bald eagle, grey wolves, Kirkland warblers, working on the piping plover, blue lupine, and Mitchell butterfly.

**Accessibility Advisory Council/Accessibility Team:** Jerry announced that the DNR will now be paying for lunch at AAC meetings and travel expenses for Council members. A handout was given to the Council showing a realignment of liaisons. Jerry reminded that Council and liaisons stay connected and requested that liaisons work with Council members on updating biographies.

The length and frequency of Council meeting was discussed. Per vote of Council members, the frequency stays the same, and the ending time will be extended to 3:00 p.m. No change in start time of 10:00 a.m.

**“Disabilities Today” – Roger McCarville:** Roger told the Council members about beginning his career with “Michigan Outdoors”. He left that show because his ultimate desire was to do a show on “abilities” not “disabilities”. His show is now broadcast on PBS, Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. Roger asked why Michigan government was not partnering with his show or other outdoor shows. Handouts and brochures describing Michigan’s accessible opportunities could be handed out at more than 75 shows per year. Jerry requested that Council members let their liaison know of any conference or outdoor show dates. Cindy wants that same information to give out on the National level.

**Review/Discussion of Universal Design Concept Doc – Cindy Burkhour:** Cindy is working on putting together guidelines, information, and concepts to people that are

developing accessible areas meeting minimum ADA requirements. It was requested that references to her document include references, shooting ranges, examples, photos, websites, and true locations.

**Council Response Items:** Erica showed updates that have been completed on the Accessible Recreation page. There was discussion on the use of the verbage “Resident Veterans Who Are Disabled”. Gen Fausone suggested that the word military be added to clarify. Cindy requested that the page focus on people instead of disabled anglers/hunters. The next agenda will include a segment on how we say it right, including the DLEG definition of what’s in a name.

**Hunt From A Standing Vehicle Permit Update/Discussion:** Bill discussed the committees focus on unable to walk and definition of a motorized vehicle. The Secretary of State Handicapped Parking Permit was discussed along with the temporary condition. Mike Bailey from Wildlife talked about personal adaptive devices, electric wheelchairs, and scooters. Is it a vehicle? If not, what is a vehicle? At the next meeting, the Council will take up the definition of a vehicle and discussion on unable to walk.

**Department Actions Update:** Mike Bailey from Wildlife updated the Council on the crossbow disabilities workgroup. They are looking at the current process, regulations, guidelines, education and dissemination to the community. Temporary disabilities was discussed along with looking at what other states do. Bill and Mark are on the committee and requested that Council members should give their thoughts to them.

Cindy requested that the Council start thinking about Council meeting dates beyond June.

**Public Comment:** Amy Spray of MUCC talked about the Ultimate Fishing show and the definite absence of the DNR. She reminded the Council that the Outdoorama is February 28-Mar 2 in Novi and the RV show is Mar13-16 in Grand Rapids. She suggested that DNR be there with information/brochures/handouts regarding accessible recreation in Michigan.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.